

A NEW SPECIES OF *FLAVERIA* (ASTERACEAE, HELENIEAE) FROM
OAXACA, MEXICO

B.L. Turner

Department of Botany, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78713 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

A new species of *Flaveria* from Oaxaca, México, *F. kochiana* B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.*, is described. It is remarkable for its closely packed, terminal heads each cluster of which superficially resembles a single head (*i.e.*, a syncephalum). The species is seemingly most closely related to *F. angustifolia* but is distinguished by a number of characters, most notably by the syncephalous capitulescence and very narrow entire leaves.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Helenieae, *Flaveria*, México, Oaxaca

Powell (1979) rendered an excellent taxonomic account of the genus *Flaveria*, recognizing 21 species, most of these occurring in México. The present description adds an additional, presumably quite localized endemic to the genus, the taxon occurring in a region where at least five or six other, relatively localized species occur.

FLAVERIA KOCHIANA B.L. Turner, *spec. nov.* TYPE: MEXICO. Oaxaca: Mpio. San Agustín Atenango, 14 km al SO de San Marcos Arteaga, carr. Huajuapa - Juxtlahuaca, 1770 m, 23 Nov 1989, S.D. Koch y P.A. Fryxell 89221 (HOLOTYPE: TEX; 9 isotypes to be distributed by the collectors).

Flaveriae angustifoliae (Cav.) Pers. similis sed differt foliis lineari-lanceolatis 2-5 mm latis (vs. elliptici-lanceolatis 10-22 mm latis) et capitulis in capitulescentiis arcte congestis capitulis singulis similibus (*i.e.*, syncephala) dispositis.

Perennial suffruticose herbs 30 cm high or more. Leaves opposite, connate, mostly 4-9 cm long, 0.2-0.4 cm wide, linear-lanceolate, glabrous, or sparsely puberulous at the very base, the margins entire. Stems pubescent in lines but soon glabrescent, the internodes numerous and short (0.6-2.0 cm long). Heads densely congested into a compact terminal syncephalum, not at all forming a recognizable

branching system. Receptacle naked, glabrous. Involucre of 3-4 scarious bracts ca. 3 mm high. Ray florets yellow, pistillate, fertile, present in most of the heads, sometimes not; ligules 2-3 mm long, ca. 1 mm wide, yellow. Disk florets (2-)3-4 per head, fertile; corollas yellow, glabrous throughout; tubes 1.0-1.5 mm long, glabrous; throat (including lobes) 1.0-1.5 mm long, glabrous. Achenes of disk and ray florets similar, ca. 1.5 mm long, glabrous, epappose.

Flaveria kochiana will key to or near *F. angustifolia* (Cav.) Pers. in Powell's treatment (1979). It is markedly different from *F. angustifolia* in possessing very narrow leaves and a syncephalous capitulescence. Additionally, the individual heads of *F. kochiana* have fewer florets (mostly 3-4 vs. 5-7) with glabrous tubes (vs. puberulent).

It is a pleasure to name this remarkably distinct species in honor of Prof. S.D. Koch who has well served México in assembling a large number of plant collections at the School of graduate studies in Chapingo.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to Dr. Guy Nesom for the Latin diagnosis, and to him and Piero Delprete for reviewing the paper.

REFERENCES

- Powell, A.M. 1979. Systematics of *Flaveria* (Flaveriinae - Asteraceae). Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 65:590-636.